NEWS / A8

KL trader, 3 RP execs arrested in Jakarta over $90-M scam

ACROSS / A14

Abra's biggest private army traced to gov



SPORTS / A23

Tiger Woods rides 60-foot eagle to latest crown

SPORTS / A24

Spurs, Cavs win semifinal NBA openers

WORLD / A25

World Bank seen firing Wolfowitz



PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS
Tuesday, May 8, 2007

'Go-slow' approach favored to address global warming



Why Vilma succeeded, Nora failed in politics

New French president vows sweeping reforms



Binay squeezes GMA bets

Mayor says President is his campaign manager

A DAY AFTER MALACAÑANG retreated from its efforts to unseat him, an indignant Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay rode the wave of public sympathy and called on voters to spurn administration candidates on May 14.

ELEKSYON 2007



Gatchalian's 4 sons have virtual lock on Valenzuela

By Nancy C. Carvajal

Senatorial bet Victor Wood hits commercialization of elections

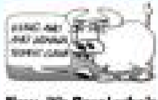
By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr



BURGOS SON STILL MISSING

Filipino workers recount nightmare in Nigeria

By Tarra Quismundo



Now, it's Garci who's trying to protect his own votes

By Grace C. Albasin

Second FrontPage

WEATHER FORECAST

219 foreign poll observers accredited

A TOTAL OF 219 FOREIGN OBSERVERS FROM 12 countries and seven international organizations who will assess the conduct of the May 14 midterm elections have been accredited by the Commission on Elections.

Party-lists want metro troops out

'Junking' allies will earn Palace ire, say TU bets

By Michael Lim Ubac



Former official confirms PCSO paid for gov't bets' ads in 2001

Luisita workers lose wage battle

Judge picks appraiser of Naia 3

[illegible]

Election-related deaths nearing 100 mark, cops report

Trillanes joins forum from jail

Corrections

Villar says spending within law

Was Binay suspension order deferred?

Binay squeezes GMA bets, says President is his campaign manager

Prepared to fight

Orchestrated by Gonzalez

Turned off

March for Jonas Burgos

Flip-flop

Gatchalian's 4 sons have virtual lock on Valenzuela

Top schools

Business grip

Helping each other

New French president vows ...

Fresh elections

Congratulations

Socialists in disarray

Ex-Indon president helps cops catch KL trader, 3 Filipino execs in Jakarta

Filipino workers recount nightmare in Nigeria

Masked attackers

Prepared for malaria

Appeal to media

'Go-slow' approach favored to address ...

Three statements

Gradual, low-cost approach

Senatorial bet Victor Wood hits commercialization of elections

Fix elections

Money for housing, medicines

RPN IBC

May 2, 2007

President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo
Republic of the Philippines
Malacañang, Manila

RE: Renewed Appeal for Financial Assistance/Privatization

Dear Madam President:

We respectfully write you again Madam President in behalf of the employees of **Radio Philippines Network (RPN) and Intercontinental Broadcasting Corporation (IBC)**. We have read in a national daily the administration's announcement that the privatization of RPN ad IBC has been finally shelved.

Ironically the announcement came after a long silence following much publicized joint privatization efforts of PMO, PCGG and DOF.

We, the concerned employees of both networks STRONGLY REGRET the administration's position since everybody pinned our hope on privatization as the ultimate solution to long years of miserable state of sequestered networks and the sad plight of more than 800 employees due to the unpaid benefits and delayed payment of retirement benefits to most of our senior comrades who have spent their productive years with the network as well as non-remittance of IBC's SSS, Pag-Ibig and Philhealth since 2004.

The premature announcement of the privatization did not help any, in fact, the frequent but inconsistent press releases then merely created uncertainty, turning advertisers away.

OUR UTMOST CONCERNS NOW ARE THE NETWORKS SURVIVAL AND HOW TO ADDRESS THE EMPLOYEES INCREASING FINANCIAL DIFFICULTIES.

The frequent change in management which is coterminous to every administration, a political setup arising from sequestration, has not worked quite well for the networks. There is no continuity in the planning and worse, no capital infusion for infrastructure, technological upgrade or production improvement.

Therefore, both have lagged miles beyond the competitors and have incurred huge debts accruing thru the years starting from sequestration.

Following our published appeal to Her Excellency in February 12, 2007, We the employees of both sequestered media nationwide URGENTLY REITERATE our appeal for the administration to give the necessary attention in order to address the worsening state of the two (2) networks which our officials whom you have appointed, under the present leadership of Secretary CONRADO LIMCAOCO as Supervising Secretary and the rest of the Board of Directors (BOD) have been very much aware of. More so, with then Government Mass Media Group Head Sec. Cerge Remonde whom we had been constantly in touched with, concerning the state of the network and its employees.

Needless to say RPN and IBC, with full cooperation of the employees, have effectively been serving to achieve their mission for national interest as vital instruments of public information, service and entertainment given their present state.

WE APPEAL THAT DURING THIS ADMINISTRATION, FINAL RESOLUTION BE REACHED FOR THE SAKE OF TWO (2) NETWORKS CONTINUED EXISTENCE AND EQUALLY IMPORTANT FOR THE SUBSISTENCE AND SURVIVAL OF MORE THAN 800 FAMILIES ALL OVER THE COUNTRY.

It goes with much appreciation if we be given the opportunity for an audience with Her Excellency.

God Bless you Madam President, your family and your governance.

MABUHAY ANG BAWAT FILIPINO.

DSU | RPNEU | |
--- | --- | --- | ---
Nestor Sandoval | Reynato M. Siozon, Jr. | Dionisio M. Lao | Samson V. Cordova
PRESIDENT | PRESIDENT | PRESIDENT | PRESIDENT

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
OPINION

Desperate moves

EDITORIAL

THE ARROYO ADMINISTRATION IS RUNNING scared and desperate in the current electoral campaign. All the reputable polls have warned it of impending defeat particularly in the senatorial contest and some key local posts. And so it is using all the resources, all the funds, all the manpower and all the powers at its command to try to reverse the trend.

The latest sign of the administration's desperation was its order to suspend Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay and to freeze the funds of the city deposited in various banks, apparently to deprive the mayor of financing in the last week of the campaign. But realizing that it made a big public relations mistake that could drive more people to vote for Binay, the administration retreated, deferred the mayor's suspension and lifted the freeze order on the city funds.

Even before the start of the election period the administration was busy consolidating its forces, moving even against opposition party-list groups like Bayan Muna. It had Bayan Muna Rep. Satur Ocampo arrested and detained on questionable charges and would have transferred him to Leyte had not Leyte Judge Ephrem Abando himself ordered Ocampo's appearance before the court deferred. Then the Supreme Court ordered Ocampo's release on bail, and he is free once more to campaign for his party.

As early as November 2006, the administration deployed heavily armed soldiers in 26 poor barangays in Metro Manila where many activists live. Asked to explain the presence of the soldiers, administration and military officials said that they were there to deal with the worsening peace and order problem. But if that were so, the proper agency that should have been called would have been the police. Later, it turned out that the soldiers were campaigning against leftist party-list groups like Bayan Muna.

Binay is not the first opposition candidate that the administration sought to suspend. Hundreds of armed policemen assaulted the Iloilo Provincial Capitol on Jan. 17 to serve a dismissal order on Gov. Niel Tupas. On the same day, the Court of Appeals in Cebu issued a temporary restraining order suspending enforcement of the dismissal order.

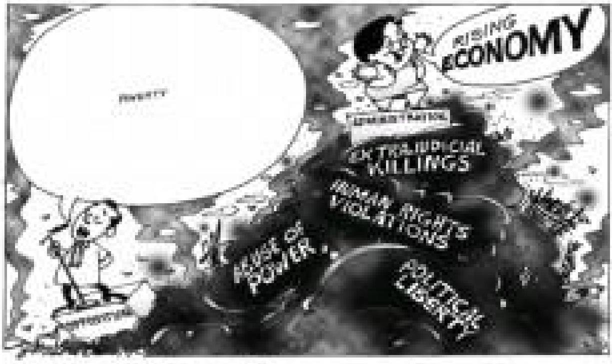
In 2004, the administration was suspected to have diverted the P728-million fertilizer fund to bankroll the election campaign of Ms Arroyo and her allies. Now it is believed to be again tapping hundreds of millions of pesos in government funds to buy votes and ensure the victory of administration candidates. Here it is a case of, to use the Tagalog expression, "Ginigisa ang taumbayan sa sariling mantika (The people are being cooked in their own fat)."

Two constitutional bodies—the Office of the Ombudsman and the Commission on Elections—are being used for partisan ends: the Ombudsman to suspend elective opposition officials who are running for reelection and the Comelec to rule against reelectionist officials like Naga City Mayor Jesse Robredo. Robredo's Filipino citizenship has been affirmed by the Supreme Court, and yet the Comelec, presuming to act as if it is a higher authority than the highest tribunal in the land, has disqualified him on the ground that he is not a Filipino citizen.

Suspicion is rife that the administration's cheating mechanism is being activated, if it has not already been put in place. Opposition leaders are anticipating another "Hello Garci" incident, or some such similar incidents to take place, to manipulate the results in the senatorial and in some of the congressional and local elections. No wonder the Social Weather Stations March 2007 Survey showed that 40 percent of the people think that "President Macapagal-Arroyo will cheat in the coming May 2007 elections in order for her candidates to win."

The tainted Comelec, which will oversee the elections, is itself distrusted by almost one-third of the people. An SWS survey in February found that 48 percent trust the Comelec while 28 percent distrust it, for a net trust rating of only + 18.

But the administration should be forewarned and remember the lesson of the snap election in February 1986. Thirty technicians manning the computers at the Philippine International Convention Center walked out en masse to protest the deliberate changing of election results. The walkout set in motion a chain of events that culminated in the People Power Revolution on Edsa on Feb. 22-25. Massive cheating in the May 14 elections could trigger another such movement.



Vote for Spiderman—or Darna?

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

Shocking

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

Gov't offices need political sense

POLITICAL TIDBITS



Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

Comelec decision stinks

AT LARGE



Rina Jimenez-David

GSIS should treat teachers with respect

COMMENTARY

Juan Miguel Luz

Dynasties

YOUNG BLOOD

Eugenio Antonio E. Dig

NOTICE TO YOUNGBLOOD CONTRIBUTORS:

'The work is never done'

LETTERS

Pampanga priest explains why he is running

Kids safer with hostage-taker Ducat



Failure of Catholic education

Now, it's Garci trying to protect his own votes

No campaign manager

Incessant denials

Mr. Congressman

Why Vilma succeeded, Nora failed in politics

Ralph's clothes

No better sign

Nora Aunor

Batangueña at heart

PETPlans News
Vol. 1, No. 2 May 2007

Court approves conversion plan

Trust fund grows from P2.6 B to P3.04 B; Large bank to manage fund independently

'Many advantages in new plan'



Ocampo

PETPlans urged to remain in Pre-Need

Next Steps

WHAT'S IN STORE FOR PLANHOLDERS

HOT LINES

Abra's biggest private army traced to gov

BANGUED, ABRA—ARMED FOLLOWERS OF Gov. Vicente Valera and his ally, Mayor Edwin Crisologo of Tineg town, comprise two-thirds of the identified private armies in this province, according to a classified police report.



SOLDIERS guard a roadblock leading to the house of Abra Gov. Vicente Valera following a spate of election-related killings in the province.

Clark airport extortion by BI men probed



MEMBERS of Bayan Muna and Akbayan party-list groups demand the disqualification of the party-list group Bantay for allegedly being a front of the Arroyo administration.

Bayan Muna says Army harassing group's campaign in E. Visayas

By Joey A. Gabieta
Inquirer Visayas

Only 1 forest guard for every 4,000 ha



ALTERED LANDSCAPE

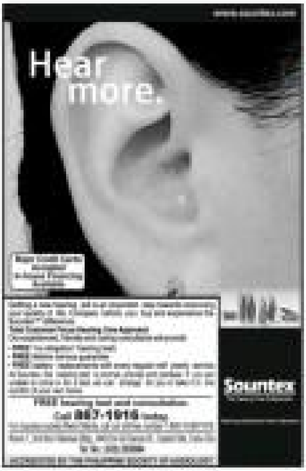
'Operation Courage' starts in Pampanga vs poll fraud

Disqualification hangs over De Venecia bid for new term



Outages in Bicol not related to polls, say power execs

News



'Little charmer' campaigns hard

By Cynthia D. Balana

THEY CALL HIM "THE LITTLE charmer" on the campaign trail.

[illegible]



MARCELO Angara [illegible]

[illegible]

Loves kids

[illegible]

Proud this

[illegible]



Aplus
METRO

Newly-hired maid runs off with ₱2M

Suspect missing 5 hours after hiring



A DIFFERENT KIND OF RALLY

Prof accused of sexual harassment could face charges

By Margaux C. Ortiz

Being a woman makes all the difference for Manila's MJ

By Jeannette I. Andrade

ELEKSYON 2007

Lady in white

Program

DID YOU KNOW

GMA No. 1 campaigner for the opposition

ON TARGET

Ramon Tulfo



Niño denies drug charge in court

By Margaux C. Ortiz

PRIME PROPERTIES / SHARES FOR SALE

METRO BRIEFS

Shot dead

E. Ramos; 61

Weekend of carnage: Dozens of Iraqis, 11 US soldiers killed

'No chance of survivors' from Kenya plane



SWISS GUARDS arrive in the "Honor Courtyard" at the Vatican May 6. The Swiss Guard, founded in 1506, consists of 100 volunteers who must be Swiss nationals, Catholic, single, at least 174 cm (5 feet 8 inches) tall and unmarried.

In LatAm, Pope faces theology of liberation

Beijing fines spitters



WorldBriefs

9 peacekeepers die in Egypt crash

Turkey fails to elect president in re-run ballot



The WORLD

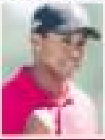
World Bank seen firing Wolfowitz


WOLFOWITZ

WASHINGTON—THE WORLD Bank has never fired its president in its more than 60-year history. That could change this week.

Reuters





WHAT'S INSIDE

■ Woods rides 60-foot eagle to latest title /A23

SPORTS

■ Spurs shock Suns /A24



Junthy slapped with hefty fine, two-game ban

Suspension may force Red Bull to pull Villanueva out of RP 5



VILLANUEVA:

Moneymen aim for solo 2nd vs Dazz

INSPIRED BY A STRONG FIRST ROUND, CEBUANA Lhuillier-Pera Padala shoots for solo second place against cellar-dweller Dazz 'Bang Pasok' at the start of the second elimination round of the PBL Unity Cup today at The Arena in San Juan.



US-BOUND: Clara Amelia Lagaspi shows her winning form in Class E (7-8 years old) of the national qualifying tournament for the Junior World Championships slated in July in San Diego, California.

Manalo cops third spot in Florida 9-ball

Archers down Lions; Ateneo scores

Spring Cooking Oil wins

SPORTSWATCH

Golfer denied visa

Fistorama on RPN-9

Rambulan finals today

Soguilon targets Olympic berth

Woods rides 60-foot eagle to latest title



CHARLOTTE, NORTH CAROLINA—Tiger Woods added the Wachovia Championship to his growing collection of trophies Sunday with a 60-foot eagle putt to take the lead, a double bogey that kept it interesting, and by avoiding the kind of calamity that doomed his challengers down the stretch.

Oscar wasn't given enough credit—Roach

PSC: Athletes dorm planned

Manchester U tops Premier League



WNC booters cop SMB beach title

Where will RP athletes get P250 million?

CLEAN LIVING



SPORTS

James bucks cold—and cold shooting—to power Cavs past Nets



Spurs shock Suns

Yankees lure 'Rocket' back for $28 million



BUSINESS



Farm sector grew 3.55% in 1st quarter

IN THIS ISSUE

- **Forex reserves hit $25B in April** /B2
- **There's no fuel like an old fuel** /B4

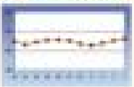


Fisheries, crops, livestock lead expansion

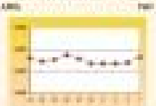
THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR GREW 3.55 PERcent in the first quarter this year due largely to sustained expansion of the fishery, crops, livestock and poultry sectors.

GSIS in talks to buy Amari land

Currencies



Stock Market



Shares close higher

Forex reserves hit $25B in April

Enough to cover 4.7 months' worth of imported goods and services

Maynilad seen out of rehab by July

Cool off duties

BREAKTIME

Conrado R. Banal III

Robinsons Land acquires another Fort Boni prime lot

Farm sector ...

Convergys expanding in Cebu

Auto parts makers move against used car imports

Kuwaiti firm to invest in downstream oil sector

By Abigail L. Ho

LBP loans up 14% to ₱3.6B as of March

By Amy R. Remo

Deposit Amount	Interest Rates, %	
In Pesos		1 Year
300,000 - 499,999	2.75	3.00
500,000 - 999,999	3.25	3.50
1.0MM - 4.99MM	3.50	3.75
5.0MM - 9.99MM	3.75	4.00
10.0MM and up	4.00	4.00



Coal producer Semirara to venture into mining, power

There's no fuel like an old fuel

Mr. Bearbull

Ben Kritz

Piltel posts lower net income of ₱1.99B

GSIS in talks ...

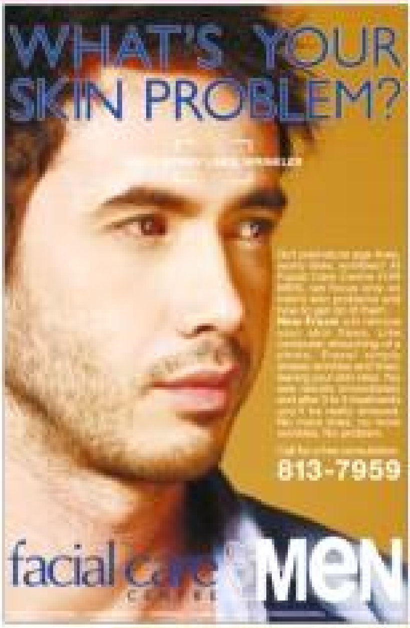
LIFESTYLE

IN THIS ISSUE



SRI SRI RAVI SHANKAR

What the mind conceives, the body achieves





GARFIELD BY JIM DAVIS



A. LIPIN BY JESS ABRERA



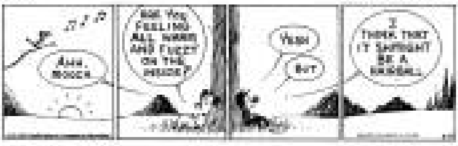
BABY BLUES BY JERRY SCOTT



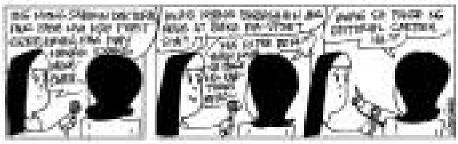
PUGAD BABOY BY PM. JUNIOR

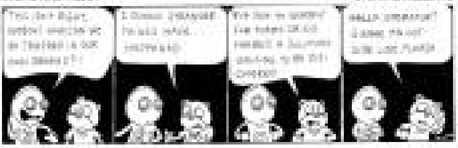


MUTTS BY PATRICK McDONNELL

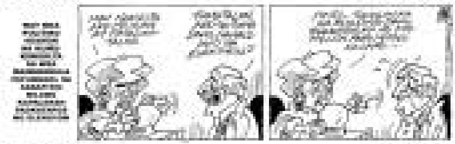


LOVEKNOTS BY ELIZABETH CHIONGLO

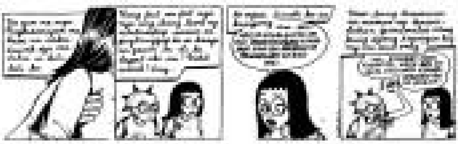


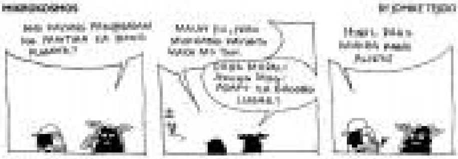


DIVINE COMEDY

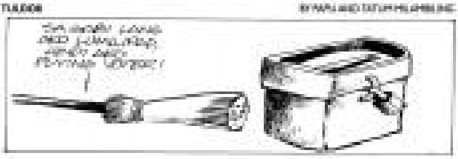


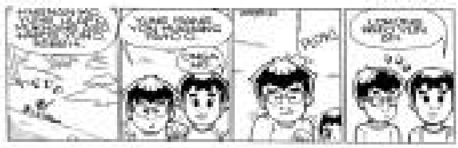
KIKO MACHINE BY MANIX ABRERA





TULDOK





DAILY CROSSWORD

HOROSCOPE

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

3		4				5		7
			5	6	7			
	8	1	7		3	4	6	
4				1				2
	2	9	6		5	3	8	
			4	3	2			
2		7				8		6

Difficulty Level ★★

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Answer to previous puzzle



What the mind conceives, the body achieves

The Filipino experience



Mindfulness





INNER AWARENESS

Limbo's impact on Philippine folk beliefs

Implications

Revised teachings

Summer workshop on inner wellness



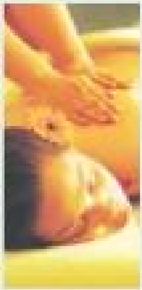
For women at leisure







R&R for Mom on her special day





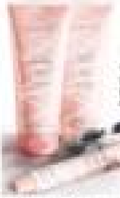
Weekend with a view

Skincare treats fit for a queen

Some things to feed her skin

Simple beauty solutions





Pamper Mom



Help the body heal itself





Fast and pretty

DIGITAL NAIL ART DOES NOT involve too much fuss at Bluewater Day Spa. After cleaning and buffing, nails are painted off white and then dried in an automatic dryer.

Moisturizing is vital to skincare

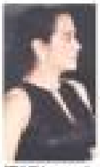


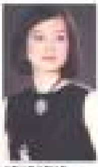


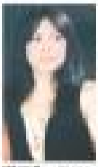
BESTSELLERS ON SALE



A glittering gem of an evening

































Remembering Abe

Anita Tortorici exhibit

WITHOUT BATTING AN EYELASH

Maurice Arcache



Nigel Barker in Manila





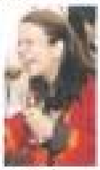


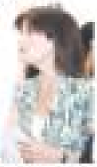


















INSIDE OUT
Cory Quirino

Nurture the mother in you

IT IS SAID THAT a child lives in the midst of your psyche. This child represents innocence, trust and faith in one's self. And this child needs only love in order to live.

Grow up

Balance

Call Mom

Save the child

Reward Mom

Gift to moms

Your Doctor Knows Best

Priscilla B. Caguioa MD, FPCP, FPSMO

Question:

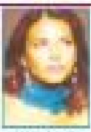
I am a smoker and have been coughing for almost a year now. How would I know if I have lung cancer?

Doctor Says...

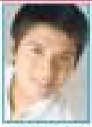
ENTERTAINMENT



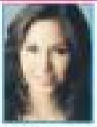




ALESSANDRA DE ROSSI



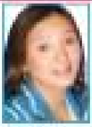
ALFRED VARGAS



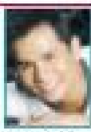
MARIEL RODRIGUEZ



FRANCIS MAGALONA



CHERRY PIE PICACHE



DIEB ALCASID

What their moms told these celebs

DOLLY WOOD

Dolly Anne Carvajal



SINCE SUNDAY IS MOTHERS' Day, I asked some celebrities what advice their moms gave them that they wish they had heeded. In the long run, mothers really know (and "NO") best!

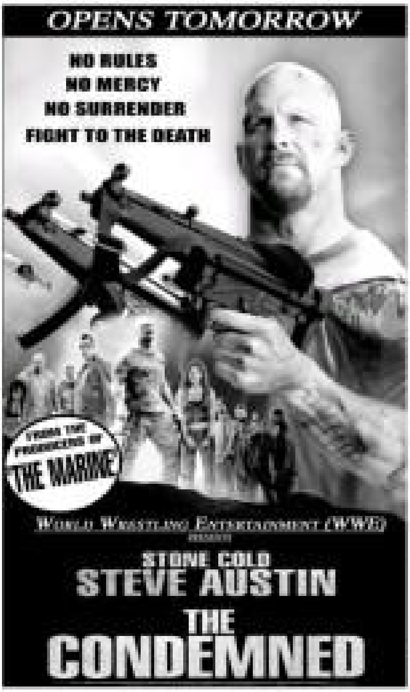
'I don't regret the choices I made, but when I look back I see that, really, mothers know best'

Gala night

The Philippine Chamber of Commerce and









Rare cinema

…tic alchemy in 'Pan's Labyrinth'

Viewfinder

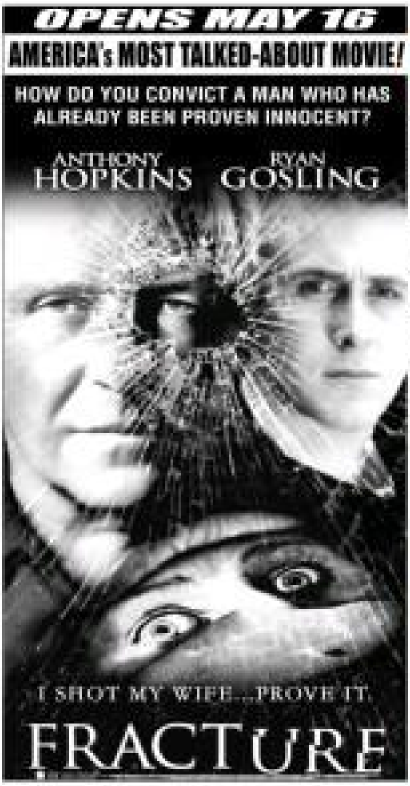


Breakout directors

Movies on TV

The visuals are marvelous to behold, but they are productively balanced by its story of cruelty and death

…hat their …oms told …ese celebs



Kids' Choice Awards

'Meet The Robinsons'

KID FIT



